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WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE P.O. Box 725388 Atlanta, GA 31139-9388			ART UNIT 2153	PAPER NUMBER 16

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/723,349

Applicant(s)

BLOOMFIELD, MARK C.

Examiner

Kevin Parton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-69 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 33-37, 47 and 58-69 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24, 27, 30-32, 38-46, and 48-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 25, 26, 28, 29 and 52-57 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 04/02/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Please see the following reasons and the grounds of rejection below.
2. The applicant's arguments can be summarized as follows: on page 17, paragraph 3 – page 18, paragraph 1, the applicant argues that the reference to Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) does not teach a bifurcated interface and that the previous action does not identify the "host portion" of the machine. The applicant further argues regarding reference to Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) that the examiner again does not make clear the traveler portion and the host portion in the reference. Further, the applicant posits that the personal digital assistant of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) is the fax function.
3. The argument is not persuasive because the references to Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) do teach the use of a bifurcated interface (Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2)), a host portion (both Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397)), and a traveler portion separated from the host portion (Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397)). Specifically, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a host portion and a bifurcated interface. The host portion is the input portion used by the user to interface with the fax device. The bifurcated interface allows a user to input both numerical and pre-programmed commands. Please note that an interface that allows for any two types of data to be entered can be considered a "bifurcated interface" since the applicant has not served as his own lexicographer in the application,

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the claim language is considered as its broadest reasonable interpretation. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) teaches a traveler portion and a host portion. Specifically, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) points out that an embodiment of the system can be carried out with a PDA with a fax "adapter." This adapter would allow for communication between the traveler portion and the fax machine for input.

4. All further arguments regarding claims 12-23 are not persuasive for the same reasons shown above.

5. All further arguments are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 12-23, 38-46, and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) in view of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

8. Regarding claim 12, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a system, comprising a fax-to-email network including at least a sender side at which an image on paper is received by the network and a receiver side from which an email message is accessible to an email user, and a bifurcated interface at the sender side, the sender side including a fax function selectively generating a facsimile from an image on paper, and the bifurcated interface including a host portion, the host portion being connected to the fax function (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose a traveler portion selectively communicating with the host portion, the traveler portion being portable.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications including a traveler portion selectively communicating with a host portion, the traveler portion being portable (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

9. Regarding claim 13, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 12) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose that the traveler portion is a specially programmed personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications including a traveler portion that is a specially programmed personal digital assistant (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

10. Regarding claim 14, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 13) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose the personal data assistant being programmed as a data entry tool having command communicating ability and a first communication protocol, and said host portion being programmed with a communication protocol compatible with said first communication protocol.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the personal data assistant being programmed as a data entry tool having command

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communicating ability and a first communication protocol, and said host portion being programmed with a communication protocol compatible with said first communication protocol (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes. The communication protocols must be the same for the result to be achieved.

11. Regarding claim 15, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teach all the limitations as applied to claim 13. He further teaches a fax-to email communication system with input means for sending the address together with commands instructing the host portion to enter a selected fax delivery mode (figure 1; column 3, lines 11-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose the traveler portion being programmed to receive input of an email address and to communicate to the host portion, via infrared linking, the address.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

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In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications comprising a traveler portion being programmed to receive input of an email address and to communicate to the host portion, the address (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the passing of address information from the PDA to the machine. This benefits the system by allowing the user to enter destination addresses without having to recall the address or numbers from memory and without making mistakes on keypad entry.

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) by employing the use of infrared signals for passing information. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) disclose the use of a PDA in communication with a fax machine. Infrared communications are commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate in close proximity to the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

12. Regarding claim 16, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a facsimile communication system with means for transmitting an image, which begins as a

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hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a destination address entered (figure 1; column 3, lines 11-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant and the personal data assistant is separate from the fax device.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant and the personal data assistant is separate from the fax device (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

13. Regarding claim 17, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means for:

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- a. Conveying via a first protocol a received address to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion of initiate facsimile delivery (figure 1; column 4, lines 4-7).
- b. Establishing a connection between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility (column 3, lines 11-13).
- c. Conveying during the first communication session via a second protocol the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility (column 3, lines 11-13).
- d. Conveying during the first communication session via a facsimile protocol an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion of the forwarding facility (column 4, lines 4-12, 36-42).
- e. Delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received by a personal data assistant and conveyed to the host device therefrom.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein an

address is received by a personal data assistant and conveyed to the host device therefrom (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

14. Regarding claim 18, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means wherein the transmitting step includes at least the step of delivering to an email address entered, an email message containing a faxed document as an attachment and containing custom text entered (column 5, lines 1-6). Note that any additional text could be entered at the fax device.

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax

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machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

15. Regarding claim 19, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means wherein the transmitting step includes at least the transmission of a document, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a forwarding facility via facsimile protocol and the delivery of the document as an electronic file to an email address (column 4, line 4 - column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax

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machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

16. Regarding claim 20, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches transmitting custom text and an email address to a server across a first communication network and during a single communication session on that first network, and the creation at the server of an email message containing the custom text, and transmission of the email message from the server to the email address (column 4, line 4 - column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the originating device interfaces with a personal data assistant for address entry.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the

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originating device interfaces with a personal data assistant for address entry (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

17. Regarding claim 21, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means for:

- a. Entering destination addresses selected from the group consisting of email addresses and telephone numbers (column 4, lines 4-7).
- b. Placing hard copy documents into the scanner portion of a fax function (column 4, lines 4-7). The fax machine used requires scanning of documents.
- c. Communicating the destination addresses to a host interface portion (column 4, lines 4-21).
- d. Communicating the image data from the fax function to the address entered (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

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Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

18. Regarding claim 22, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 21. He further teaches means wherein if the destination address is an address on a first communication network, initiating a connection to the first communication network by the host interface portion dialing the phone dialing the destination address entered at the personal data assistant to open a communication line, and releasing the communication line for direct connection to the fax function (column 4, lines 4-21).

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Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

19. Regarding claim 23, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 21. He further teaches means wherein if the destination address is an address on a computer network, initiating a connection to a forwarding facility by the host interface portion dialing a pre-established address for accessing a server, to open a communication line between the host interface portion and the forwarding facility, and

releasing the communication line for direct connection between the forwarding facility and the fax function (column 4, lines 4-42).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

20. Regarding claim 38, 40, 42, and 44, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 16, 24, 30, and 32, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the destination address is entered in a syntactically correct format as recognized by a computer network (column 4, lines 4-21).

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21. Regarding claims 39, 41, 43, and 45, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claims 38, 40, 42, and 44, respectively) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the destination address is stored in an address book of the personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the address book of a personal data assistant. This benefits the system by allowing users to enter addresses from the book without the chance of typing in addresses incorrectly.

22. Regarding claim 46, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 22. He further teaches means wherein each destination address of the plurality of destination addresses is entered either in a syntactically correct format as recognized by a telephone network or in a syntactically correct format as recognized by a computer network (column 4, lines 4-7).

23. Regarding claim 48, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 12. He further teaches means wherein the host portion is physically linked to, but functionally separate from, the fax function (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30). Please note that the host portion of the fax machine would be functionally separate from the facsimile functions.

24. Regarding claim 49, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 12. He further teaches means wherein the host portion is integrated

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with, but functionally separate from, the fax function (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30).

Please note that the host portion of the fax machine would be functionally separate from the facsimile functions.

25. Regarding claim 50, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 12) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose a plurality of traveler portions, each of the traveler portions of the plurality being portable relative to the host portion and selectively communicating with the host portion.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a plurality of traveler portions, each of the traveler portions of the plurality being portable relative to the host portion and selectively communicating with the host portion (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21). Please note that any number of PDAs could interface with the fax via the fax adapter of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

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26. Regarding claim 51, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 12. He further teaches a plurality of fax functions and a plurality of host portions, each host portion of the plurality of host portions being connected to one of the fax functions of the plurality of fax functions (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30). Please note that the number of devices is not limited.

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein a traveler portion interacts with the host portion.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein a traveler portion interacts with the host portion (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

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27. Claims 24, 27, and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry (USPN 6,424,426) in view of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

28. Regarding claim 24, Henry (USPN 6,424,426) teaches a facsimile communication method with means for:

- a. Receiving a destination address (column 5, lines 6-10).
- b. Conveying via a first data exchange the received address to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery (column 5, lines 24-26).
- c. Establishing, through the dialing of a destination address different from the destination address received during the receiving step, a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility (column 5, lines 16-17).
- d. Conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange (column 5, lines 24-26).
- e. Conveying an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and second data exchanges (column 5, lines 17-25).

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- f. Delivering the image as an electronic file to the destination address received (column 5, lines 38-46; column 6, lines 35-38).

Although the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426), as evidenced by Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

In an analogous art, Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677) discloses a fax system wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant (column 5, lines 49-59; column 7, lines 28-33). Please note that the interface to the fax machine allows the PDA user to interface and perform fax functions such as address input.

Given the teaching of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Henry (USPN 6,424,426) by employing the use of a PDA for address input. This benefits the system by allowing users to input saved addresses without having to memorize them or make mistakes in typing them into the fax.

29. Regarding claim 27, Henry (USPN 6,424,426) teaches a facsimile communication method with means for:

- a. Receiving an alphanumeric email address, being the address of a mailbox on a computer network (column 5, lines 6-10).

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- b. Conveying via a first data exchange the received address to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery (column 5, lines 24-26).
- c. Establishing a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility (column 5, lines 16-17).
- d. Conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange (column 5, lines 24-26).
- e. Conveying an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and second data exchanges (column 5, lines 17-25).
- f. Delivering the image as an electronic file to the destination address received (column 5, lines 38-46; column 6, lines 35-38).

Although the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426), as evidenced by Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

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In an analogous art, Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677) discloses a fax system wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant (column 5, lines 49-59; column 7, lines 28-33). Please note that the interface to the fax machine allows the PDA user to interface and perform fax functions such as address input.

Given the teaching of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Henry (USPN 6,424,426) by employing the use of a PDA for address input. This benefits the system by allowing users to input saved addresses without having to memorize them or make mistakes in typing them into the fax.

30. Regarding claim 30, Henry (USPN 6,424,426) teaches a facsimile communication method, comprising transmitting an image, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a destination address, wherein the transmitting step includes at least the step of delivering, to the destination address, an email message containing a faxed document as an attachment and containing, as part of the email message body. Custom text entered (column 5, lines 16-26, 38-46; column 6, lines 35-38).

Although the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426), as evidenced by Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

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In an analogous art, Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677) discloses a fax system wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant (column 5, lines 49-59; column 7, lines 28-33). Please note that the interface to the fax machine allows the PDA user to interface and perform fax functions such as address input.

Given the teaching of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Henry (USPN 6,424,426) by employing the use of a PDA for address input. This benefits the system by allowing users to input saved addresses without having to memorize them or make mistakes in typing them into the fax.

31. Regarding claim 31, Henry (USPN 6,424,426) teaches a facsimile communication system with means for transmitting an image, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to an email address, being the address of a mailbox on a computer network; which email address was entered in an alphanumeric syntax of the computer network, wherein the transmitting step includes at least the transmission of a document, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a forwarding facility via a facsimile protocol and the delivery of the document as an electronic file to the email address (column 5, lines 16-26, 38-46; column 6, lines 35-38).

Although the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant.

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Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426), as evidenced by Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

In an analogous art, Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677) discloses a fax system wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant (column 5, lines 49-59; column 7, lines 28-33). Please note that the interface to the fax machine allows the PDA user to interface and perform fax functions such as address input.

Given the teaching of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Henry (USPN 6,424,426) by employing the use of a PDA for address input. This benefits the system by allowing users to input saved addresses without having to memorize them or make mistakes in typing them into the fax.

32. Regarding claim 32, Henry (USPN 6,424,426) teaches a facsimile system with means for:

- a. Transmitting an image, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a server across a first communication network (column 5, lines 16-26).
- b. Transmitting custom text and a destination address to the server across the communication network and during a single communication session on that first network (column 5, lines 16-26, 38-46).

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- c. Creating at the server an email message containing the image as an attachment and, as part of the email message body, the custom text (column 5, lines 38-46).
- d. Transmitting the email message from the server to the destination address (column 6, lines 35-38).

Although the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Henry (USPN 6,424,426), as evidenced by Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677).

In an analogous art, Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677) discloses a fax system wherein the address is received and conveyed via a personal digital assistant (column 5, lines 49-59; column 7, lines 28-33). Please note that the interface to the fax machine allows the PDA user to interface and perform fax functions such as address input.

Given the teaching of Nakamura et al. (USPN 6,590,677), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Henry (USPN 6,424,426) by employing the use of a PDA for address input. This benefits the system by allowing users to input saved addresses without having to memorize them or make mistakes in typing them into the fax.

Allowable Subject Matter

33. Claims 33-37, 47, and 58-69 are allowed.

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34. Claims 25, 26, 28, 29, and 52-57 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

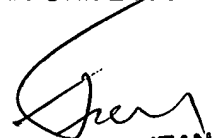
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Parton whose telephone number is (703)306-0543. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703)305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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ksp

Kevin Parton
Examiner
Art Unit 2153



FRANTZ B. JEAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER